

Common Questions About Medicaid Case Management

1. If I transport a recipient to case management services, is this covered as case management?

On occasion, case managers are expected to accompany recipients to services. The purpose is both to ensure that the service provider is aware of the overall case plan and to monitor the services the provider is delivering. If the case manager transports the recipient on these occasions, Wisconsin Medicaid covers this transportation under case management.

2. How do I bill split travel time when case management is not the only service provided?

When a case manager travels to a recipient's home and provides both case management and other services, the travel time must be prorated so that only the appropriate portion of travel is claimed as case management.

For example, the case manager must travel one half-hour each way to a recipient's house and provide one half-hour of case management and one half-hour of assistance with personal tasks (which is not case management). Bill only half of the travel time (one half-hour) to case management.

Wisconsin Medicaid may cover the remainder of the travel time if both of the following apply:

- The other service is Medicaid covered.
- The policies for that service allow travel time to be separately reimbursable.

For example, a provider travels one half-hour each way to a recipient's house. The provider provides one half-hour of case management and one and a half hours of in-home psychotherapy. Since travel time is billable with in-home psychotherapy, the provider should bill 15 minutes of the travel to case management and 45 minutes to in-home psychotherapy.

If the case manager travels to a location, such as a group home, where he or she sees more than one recipient, the case management time should be allocated on a prorated basis to the different recipients.

For example, the case manager must travel one half-hour each way to see two recipients at one site. One half-hour of travel should be billed on behalf of each recipient.

3. Let's say I travel to a recipient's residence, but I don't make contact with the recipient. Does Wisconsin Medicaid cover travel time if there is no billable service?

No. If a case manager travels to see a recipient or collateral, but does not actually make a contact (because the person was not home or available), Wisconsin Medicaid does not cover that travel time. Travel time is only covered when it is provided as a part of a covered service. Since no service took place, the travel time is not covered.

4. I'm a service provider, but not a case management provider. Can I become a case management provider?

Yes. Wisconsin Medicaid does not prohibit providers of other services (whether Medicaid covered or not) from being case managers. For instance, staff of a day treatment program or a sheltered workshop may be case managers. However, the case manager must not bill services which are associated with his/her role as a service provider as Medicaid case management.

For example, a provider of in-home treatment for a child with severe emotional disturbance is also providing case management. As the child's case manager, the provider completes the comprehensive case management assessment and also convenes an interagency team to complete the case plan. Wisconsin Medicaid covers these activities under case management. In-home treatment is one of the services identified on the case plan. The in-home team develops a treatment plan for the in-home services. Wisconsin Medicaid does not cover this treatment plan's development under case management.

Similarly, Wisconsin Medicaid does not cover the documentation of the in-home treatment as case management. This documentation is considered part of the in-home service. Only documentation of the case management activities in support of the case management case plan are covered as case management documentation time.

If case management is a component of the other services being provided and included in the Medicaid payment for that service, do not separately bill it under case management.

5. I have seen case management referred to as "targeted case management." Why?

Wisconsin Medicaid sometimes uses the term targeted case management to refer to the case management provided to certain populations as described in HFS 107.32, Wis. Admin. Code, and in this handbook. This is because case management is a covered service for *only certain target populations*.

6. What is HealthCheck Outreach case management?

Wisconsin Medicaid also reimburses certain agencies to ensure that HealthCheck-eligible recipients (individuals under 21 years of age) receive their HealthCheck screens according to the periodicity schedule and obtain referrals to services recommended because of the screen. This is referred to as HealthCheck Outreach and Case Management. If the same agency provides HealthCheck Outreach and case management and targeted case management, bill the service as targeted case management. Why? Ensuring access to HealthCheck screens and related necessary services is a component of targeted case management.

7. If HealthCheck Outreach and case management are provided by a different agency from the agency providing targeted case management, who does Wisconsin Medicaid pay?

Wisconsin Medicaid covers services by both agencies for their activities only if the activities are not duplicative. The targeted case manager must ensure that the activities are coordinated. The purpose of HealthCheck Outreach and Case Management is to get the child screened and make referrals based on the screening. Targeted case management coordinates a broader array of services identified in the child's case plan.

8. What is Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC)? Who is eligible for PNCC?

Women who are pregnant with a high risk of an adverse birth outcome are eligible for Medicaid PNCC services. The PNCC agency is responsible for ensuring that the woman gets necessary prenatal care and also addressing other issues which might put the woman at risk (e.g., substance abuse, domestic abuse).

9. How do PNCC and targeted case management work together?

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses both the PNCC agency and the targeted case management agency for providing services to the same recipient at the same time if the services are not duplicative. Since PNCC is time limited (to 60 days after the birth), the targeted case manager must take responsibility for coordinating the two agencies' efforts to avoid duplication of effort. The targeted case manager and the PNCC case manager must decide, along with the recipient, which agency will provide what services.

For example, a woman with a significant history of substance abuse is admitted to a PNCC program because of the risk of an adverse birth outcome. The woman has a Medicaid case manager because of her substance abuse disorder. The "targeted" case manager has been working with the woman to help her find treatment and is also working on housing and nutrition needs.

After the woman's admission to the PNCC program, the targeted case manager revises the woman's case plan to identify her involvement with PNCC and the need to coordinate efforts with the PNCC agency. The targeted case manager meets with the PNCC staff and discusses their responsibilities with the recipient. The targeted case manager continues to work with the recipient on accessing substance abuse treatment and on housing issues. The PNCC agency works on accessing prenatal care, educating the recipient on perinatal health issues, and addressing nutrition needs.